

Highlands Happenings

April 27, 2017

Betty Reitz's birthday is TODAY!

Lindsey Sittko - May 3rd.

Children's Special Service THIS Sunday April 30th. Bring your noisy offerings!

- **May Community Birthday Celebration - THIS Sunday April 30th**
- **See Doug Howe playing at the Bull & Bush - THIS Sunday April 30th**
 - **Goodbye from Mary Williams and Peggy Lundberg**
- **Sign up!** Gift Card & Diaper Baby Shower for Pastor Travis and Yajira **Sunday, May 7!**
 - **Paul Criley Memorial Service - May 13th @ 2pm**
 - **Mom's Group Updates** - Help needed for the **June 10th** kids' sale!
 - **Fill the pantry** - the church kitchen needs supplies!
 - **Diaper Drive coming soon!** - see the flyer in the Narthex
- **Anyone need help around the house? Available week of June 4th** Talk with Pr. Sondra about free help!
 - **Bienvenidos Food Bank** - In **May**, we need cooking oil.

Need more specific information? Scroll down for full text.

COMING UP AT HIGHLANDS...

May Community Birthday Celebration

We will be celebrating our May birthdays after worship this Sunday, **April 30th** in the Fellowship Hall. Come join HLC and HCC in celebration with coffee and cake after worship. Please note, this is a week earlier than we usually celebrate birthdays.

See Doug Howe playing at the Bull & Bush!

THIS Sunday **April 30th** from **6-9pm**, Doug will be playing with the New Orleans Jazz Gathering at the [Bull & Bush, 4700 Cherry Creek Dr. S Denver, CO 80246](#). Come join the fun!

"See you Later" from Mary Williams

Dear Highlands Family, Change is one of those human things that we all dislike, but that we cannot prevent. We all want to have our lives continue on in the way that is comfortable. But there are moments when life offers up change that we don't anticipate.

Such a moment has happened in my own life. Circumstances in my financial world have shifted. As a result, I am moving to Pueblo at the end of this month. This is in many ways a leap of faith. I trust in the love of God that surrounds me as well as the support and love of my friends and companions who are walking this journey with me.

I will miss very much being an active part of this congregation. This has been my church family for nearly 30 years. While I will not be present in worship every Sunday, I will be back at least once a month to say hello and "check in". There are so many parts of life in this church that I will think about: Isaiah in Joe's arms as he learns the ropes of being an usher; Charlotte coming up to dance; Lucy singing with the choir; and the choir, oh the choir; conversation in the narthex following worship; the most marvelous passing of the peace ever! So many things.

Highlands Lutheran is an exceptional model of how to be church, how to be welcoming, how to go out into the world with the message of Jesus: to love as he has loved us. Each person in this congregation "preaches the gospel" without saying a word, just in how each one of us lives out a life filled with the love and grace of God.

Highlands will continue always in my prayers as this congregation moves forward in the process of calling a new pastor. I know that the Holy Spirit will guide that endeavor to the result that will be best for this marvelous group of Christ-filled people! So, I will just say "See you later" instead of "Good-bye".

Much love and God's blessings, Mary

Mary's new (temporary) address is 512 Alma Ave., Pueblo, CO 81004

A Note from Peggy

Dear Friends, Almost two years ago I was approached to be the "interim" music director at Highlands. Immediately, it became apparent that this was a unique community that cared for each other, deeply, and had a unique vision of how to serve the greater cause. So, when the interim position was extended, it was an easy decision to continue on as your Music Director.

Last summer my husband and I moved to Parker. My trips to Highlands became much longer, as the only direct route is up the I-25 corridor. It is 64 miles round trip and we make an average of three a week. My daughter, who lives in Parker, just had a new baby and I find myself joyfully engaged with this new life, and his sister's. Finally, it is time for Paul and me to have an open-ended schedule, to explore the many adventures that await us, locally, and beyond Denver and Colorado. As this last year has progressed, it became clear that I should resign as Music Director. In January I notified your council of my intention to leave at the end of May. This has been a difficult decision, but one made with clarity and peace. I have loved my time here and will miss my tiny, musical, choir, worship planning, the children, playing piano for worship, Pastor Travis, Wendy, but mostly, the Holy Spirit that is so present here, through each of you. It has been an honor. I am so grateful. With love, Peggy

BABY SHOWER for the Johnson-Esparzas

Highlands Lutheran will be hosting a "fellowship style" baby shower (meaning no goofy games) after worship **May 7th** for Pastor Travis and Yajaira, in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to join in this time of fellowship and thanksgiving. We are collecting diapers, wipes, and gift cards (to places like Target, Walmart, or even the grocery store), to help out with incidentals new babies, and sleep deprived families, need. Please sign up to bring an appetizer, dessert, or drink, and to help with set-up or clean-up, if you can. Follow the link below to sign up online, or use the signup sheet on the Narthex table. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044EA4AD2BA5FD0-pastor>

Memorial Service for Paul Criley

The memorial service for Paul Criley will be held in the sanctuary on **Saturday, May 13th @ 2pm**. If you would like to help with the time of fellowship following the service, please contact the church office: 303-477-2031 or office@highlandslutheran.org

Moms' Group Updates

The 3rd Annual Kids' Stuff Sale is coming **June 10th, 9-noon**. The Moms' Group needs help with donations, sorting, pricing, set up, clean up, and generally having fun together at the sale! Contact Maren Markus to help out marenmarkus@gmail.com. Spread the word! Flyers are on the Narthex table. This is our annual youth ministry fundraiser and will help buy supplies for future youth events.

Sign up on the Moms' Group [Facebook page](#) for up-to-date information.

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME and RESOURCES

Help Fill the Pantry

Our Fellowship Hall shelves need restocking. Next time you're at the store, please grab small paper plates, forks, ground regular or decaf coffee, dried creamer, small paper cups for either hot or cold beverages, or napkins, if you can. Please no styrofoam. Together we can restock our supply. Thanks!

Diaper Drive

There's a diaper drive coming this May benefiting Bienvenidos Food Bank. HLC will be a drop off location during the month of May. A special announcement will be made during worship on **April 30th** from The Northwest Denver branch of the Rocky Mountain Diaper Depot.

From Pr. Sondra...

I know of a group who would like to do physical labor for those needing help with their houses or other structures, or for a non-profit that needs help with their facilities. **Does anyone know of a group or individuals who may need some physical help this summer?** They are available the week of June 4. They would be willing to get the supplies needed. They have experience and for example can build wheel chair ramps. Let me know of other clergy, non-profits or groups who I might contact. Email me at revsondra@aol.com

Bienvenidos Food Bank

In May we need cooking oil!

MAY CHRIST'S LOVE, GRACE and COMPASSION BE WITH YOU ALWAYS!